

BALLET *Fantastique*

60 E. 10th Ave. Eugene, Or 97401

541.342.4611

info@balletfantastique.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Hannah Bontrager

Ballet Fantastique

60 E. 10th Ave.

Eugene, OR 97401

(541) 206-8977

From Tchaikovsky to Tango: Introducing Ballet Fantastique and Trio Voronezh

EUGENE, ORE—October 13 and 14, Ballet Fantastique and Trio Voronezh present From Tchaikovsky to Tango, featuring seminal Russian favorites, tango premieres, a unique exploration of Arabia, and an “Encore” section, including “Russian Ragtime” by Alexander Zigankov. Tickets are available at the Hult Center Box Office or at www.hultcenter.org.

From Tchaikovsky to Tango marks Trio Voronezh’s first ever performance with a dance company, collaborating with Eugene’s only professional chamber ballet company, Ballet Fantastique.

THE PROGRAM

The evening will open with Bach’s “Scherzo in B minor,” arranged by Trio Voronezh and featuring Ballet Fantastique choreography in a fluid, contemporary pas de deux. “We reinterpreted the music with clean lines that melt into each other and continuously unfold to visually represent and play with the music’s layering,” says Ballet Fantastique dancer Alonzo Moore.

Pieces from Tchaikovsky and other Russian composers are featured next, as Ballet Fantastique dancers perform favorites from *Swan Lake*—straight from the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow—an exciting challenge for the dancers. “You know that you’re performing repertoire that is the same across oceans and generations of professional dancers,” says Nicola Thieme, who will be performing the Hungarian variation with Moore. “You have to rise to the expectation, even as you make it your own.”

The Russian portion will also feature works like “The Dying Swan,” written by French composer Camille Saint-Saens but known as the trademark solo of Russian prima ballerina Anna Pavlova, who first performed the piece in 1905.

Ballet Fantastique will then perform excerpts from *Le Corsaire*. Known for its virtuosic requirements, the 1856 ballet, set in Turkey will mark the close of Act I. The Trio will also introduce an exotic new “Waltz for Nikki.”

Act II will feature the most highly anticipated portion of the evening as the company premieres a new tango, Spanish pieces including Conseuelo Valazquez’s “Besame Mucho,” a traditional Argentine dance with bossa nova undertones and new pieces by Richard Galiano.

TRIO VORONEZH

Trio Voronezh started their career playing small concert halls in Germany, France and the Netherlands in 1993. Discovered in a Frankfurt subway station, they made their U.S. debut in 1996 at the Oregon Bach Festival. They have since returned to perform at the festival for consistently sold out audiences and have been called “subtle, playful, brilliant-hot, classy, fresh” by the *Register Guard*.

Today, the Trio tours around the world, performing both solo and with larger ensembles and symphonies, including the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

BALLET FANTASTIQUE

Ballet Fantastique is Eugene’s only chamber ballet company. With a repertoire classically rooted in the Russian Vaganova style of the Bolshoi and Kirov, critics have praised the company’s dancers for their passion, clarity, and “bright” virtuosity. The *Register Guard* has also hailed Ballet Fantastique as “impressive and spectacular.”

Comprised of six young professional dancers, the company regularly presents professional solo concerts and collaborations with such groups as Eugene Symphony, the Slavic Festival, and other Northwest dance companies.

With a mission to keep classical ballet “vibrantly alive and relevant to new audiences,” Ballet Fantastique’s Executive Director, Hannah Bontrager, is excited with this year’s collaboration with the Trio, saying that “audiences want more from their trip to the theater. They want to be intrigued, to have their expectations challenged and exceeded.” Tchaikovsky to Tango, she says, promises to do that and more.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Performances are Saturday, October 13 at 8 pm and Sunday, October 14 at 4 pm.

Tickets are \$20-25 for reserved seating; \$12 for students. Group discount is \$5 off \$20-25 tickets for groups of six or more (Hult Center Box Office sales only; not available for online ticket purchases).

Generous grant support provided by Lane Arts Council, with support from the City of Eugene Cultural Services Division and U.S. Bank. Additional support from Pacific Office Automation, Territorial Winery and the Richard P. Haugland Foundation.

For more information visit the Ballet Fantastique website at
www.balletfantastique.org

Additional information on Trio Voronezh can be found at
www.triovoronezh.com